

KNOWLEDGE AND UTILIZATION OF SAFE MOTHERHOOD SERVICES

(A Case Study of Tharu Community in Manpur Tapara VDC, Bardiya)

A

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APPROVAL SHEET

This Thesis entitled “**Knowledge and Utilization of Safe Motherhood Services in Nepal: A Case Study of Tharu Community in Manpur Tapara VDC of Bardiya District**” by Sudarshan Rijal has been accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirement of the Degree of Master of Arts in Population Studies.

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ABSTRACT

The study on “Knowledge and Utilization of Safe Motherhood Services in Tharu Community in Manpur Tapara VDC, Bardiya” was carried out by using the primary data collected in the field survey. The field survey covered the selected wards 2 and 9 of Manpur Tapara VDC of Bardiya District and 120 married women aged 15-19 years were selected under the purposive sampling who had at least one child under age 5 during the period of survey.

The main objective of the study was to examine knowledge of safe motherhood, level of utilization of safe motherhood practices in Tharu community. The relationship between two or more variables has been examined through tabulation, bar diagram and pie charts. The determining variables for Knowledge and Utilization of Safe Motherhood are antenatal check up, TT vaccination, receiving iron tablets and vitamin ‘A’, delivery assistance, place of delivery, use of clean delivery kit and postnatal checkup.

The study included 738 populations from 120 households which consist of 53.6 percent male and 46.4 percent female. The literacy rate of the study population is 69.1 percent. The study shows 57.7 percent people were married, 7.1 percent widow/widower and 1.0 percent divorced/separated. Majority of the households are engaged in agriculture. In the study 88.4 percent respondents were literate and higher percentage of them were in the age 25-29 years. The study shows 93.3 percent respondents had the knowledge about safe motherhood. The study reveals 65.9 percent respondents received ANC services. Higher percent of respondents received the service from health post. Similarly, 72.5 percent respondents received TT vaccination, 65 percent took iron tablets and 34 percent took vitamin ‘A’. In the study 91.6 percent deliveries were done at home and only 18.2 percent deliveries were done with clean delivery kit. In the study only 6 percent respondent utilized postnatal care and higher percentage (57.1%) of them received from health post.

The study concluded that there is a positive relationship between education and knowledge, utilization and maternal health care services. There is significant relationship between receiving iron tablets, TT vaccination, Vitamin ‘A’ and age at marriage, level of education of their husband.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| AHW | : | Auxiliary Health Worker |
| AIDS | : | Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome |
| ANC | : | Antenatal Care |
| ANM | : | Auxiliary Nurse Mid |
| CBS | : | Central Bureau of Statistics |
| CDPS | : | Central Department of Population Studies |
| DC | : | Delivery Care |
| DFID | : | Department for International Development |
| DoHS | : | Department of Health Services |
| EOC | : | Emergency Obstetric Care |
| FP | : | Family Planning |
| HA | : | Health Assistant |
| HIV | : | Human Immune Deficiency Virus |
| HP | : | Health Post |
| ICPD | : | International Conference on Population and Development |
| MCH | : | Maternal and Child Health |
| MCHWs | : | Maternal and Child Health Workers |
| MMR | : | Maternal Mortality Ratio |
| MoH | : | Ministry of Health |
| NDHs | : | Nepal Demographic and Health Survey |
| NFHS | : | Nepal Family Health Survey |
| NGOs | : | Non-Governmental Organizations |
| PHC | : | Primary Health Centers |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| PNC | : | Postnatal Care |
| PRB | : | Population Reference Bureau |
| SHP | : | Sub Health Post |
| SSMP | : | Support to the Safe Motherhood Program |
| STDs | : | Sexually Transmitted Diseases |
| STIs | : | Sexually Transmitted Infections |
| TBAs | : | Traditional Birth Attendants |
| TT | : | Tetanus Toxoid |
| UK | : | United Kingdom |
| UN | : | United Nation |
| UNFPA | : | United Nations Fund for Population Activities |
| UNICEF | : | United Nations International Children Emergency Fund |
| VDC | : | Village Development Committee |
| VHWs | : | Village Health Workers |
| WHO | : | World Health Organizations |